

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01606 161717Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 IO-14 SAJ-01

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /122 W

----- 029900

O 161600Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3984

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS AND AEAGG-COC-IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS IMMEDIATE

USELMLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET DETENTION OF US SOLDIER

REF: BERLIN 1602 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET AUTHORITIES, AFTER PERMITTING MISSION ACCESS TO MEDLEY, ASSURED US THAT HE WILL BE RELEASED TO US CUSTODY WITHIN MAXIMUM OF TWO DAYS. END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIET PROTOCOL OFFICER ROMANOVSKIY TELEPHONED MISSION PROTOCOL OFFICER MORNING SEPTEMBER 16 TO INFORM US THAT REASON FOR MEDLEY'S DETENTION WAS THAT HE HAD COMMITTED "CRIMINAL ACT" IN ATTEMPTING ILLEGALLY TO TRANSPORT CITIZEN OF GDR TO WEST BERLIN. THIS WAS FIRST OFFICIAL  
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01606 161717Z

NOTIFICATION THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED OF NATURE OF CHARGES

AGAINST MEDELY. RESPONDING TO OUR EARLIER REQUESTS FOR ACCESS, ROMANOVSKIY ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR MISSION REPRESENTATIVE TO VISIT MEDLEY AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 16.

3. AT 1300 MILITARY POLICE OFFICER (MEDLEY'S COMMANDER) AND MISSION PROTOCOL OFFICER WERE MET AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE AND WERE ESCORTED TO SOVIET GARRISON IN KARLSHORST WHERE MEDLEY WAS BEING DETAINED. US REPRESENTATIVES WERE USHERED INTO SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM, (WITH COUCH), WHERE MEDLEY ALREADY PRESENT AND WHERE HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HELD SINCE DAY FOLLOWING APPREHENSION (SEPTEMBER 11). FOUR SOVIET MILITARY OFFICER'S PLUS ROMANOVSKIY, WERE PRESENT DURING VISIT, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. MEDLEY SAID THAT HE WAS BEING WELL-TREATED, THAT HE HAD SUFFICIENT TO EAT, AND WAS IN GOOD HEALTH. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO EXTENSIVE QUESTIONING, BUT ALWAYS BY SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL AND NOT BY EAST GERMANS.

4. SOVIET OFFICERS INFORMED US REPRESENTATIVES THAT INVESTIGATION INTO MEDLEY CASE, WHICH WAS BEING CONDUCTED BY SOVIET MILITARY PROSECUTOR, WOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO DAYS AND THAT RESULTS WOULD THEN BE HANDED OVER TO US AUTHORITIES. WHEN PROTOCOL OFFICER INQUIRED WHETHER MEDLEY WOULD BE RELEASED AT SAME TIME, SOVIETS REPLIED IN AFFIRMATIVE. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, DURING WHICH US REPRESENTATIVES SOUGHT TO PIN DOWN SOVIET INTENTIONS, SOVIETS GAVE ASSURANCE THAT RELEASE WOULD TAKE PLACE WITHIN MAXIMUM OF TWO DAYS AND POSSIBLY EARLIER. MEDLEY

WAS NOT BEING RELEASED NOW, THEY SAID, ONLY BECAUSE INVESTIGATION HAD NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. ROMANOVSKY TOLD MISSION PROTOCOL OFFICER ON WAY OUT THAT RELEASE WOULD PROBABLY OCCUR TOMORROW (SEPTEMBER 17).

5. USCOB CONCURS.  
KLEIN

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## Message Attributes

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